THE

GENERAL EXERCISE

Ordered by his HIGHNESS the

Prince of Orange,

To be punctually obſerved of all the *INFANTRY* in Service of the

STATES GENERAL

OF THE

United Provinces.

BEING

A moſt Worthy *COMPENDIUM*, very uſeful for all Perſons concerned in that Noble EXERCISE of ARMS.

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2 Sam. 22. 40. *For thou haſt girded me with ſtrength to Battel; them that roſe up againſt me, haſt thou ſubdued under me.*

LONDON,

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General Obſervations.

I.

IT muſt be underſtood that before the Exerciſe begin, the Officers at the firſt Advertiſement by tuck of Drum advancing their Pikes, ſhall turn about to the right; and upon the ſecond, march through the Battalion, ranging themſelves in the Rear in the ſame order they were upon the Front; the Sergeants, who were poſted behind the Battalion, ſeparating themſelves to the right and left, ſhall take their Places upon the Flanks till the Exerciſe be done, and the Officers ſhall have taken their former Poſt upon the Front at the forementioned Advertiſement by tuck of Drum, at which time the ſaid Sergeants ſhall alſo return to the Rear as before.

II.

The Drummers ſhall ſtay upon the Wings of the Battalion during the Exerciſe, excepting thoſe that are in the Center before the Pikes, who in the time that the Officers march through to the Rear, ſhall range themſelves behind the Major, to be always ready either for giving Advertiſements, or in caſe the Battalion might be exerciſed by tuck of Drum.

III.

No man ſhall offer to ſtir or make the leaſt motion till the Word of Command be fully pronounced, and then to perform what ſhall be commanded with a graceful readineſs, and quick motion all at the ſame time.

IV.

The Souldier having his Musket ſhoulder'd, muſt ſtand ſtraight up on his Limbs, hold up his Head, and look always to the commanding Officer, making no Motion, but ſuch as ſhall be ordered, which muſt be obſerved as a general Rule in all Commands.

V.

The Souldiers muſt keep their Feet a ſmall pace diſtant from each other, their Heels ſtraight in a line, and their Toes turned outwardly, holding their Muskets with their left hand upon their left Shoulder, the Thumb in the hollow above the Butt, holding the Iron which covers the Drawer cloſe to the Shoulder, that the Muzzel of the Musket behind may ſtand ſomewhat high, turning the Lock a little outward, ſo that the Butt may come to the Buttons, or middle of the Breaſt, and the Muskets over all be the more equally carried.

VI.

The Match muſt be holden in the left hand, one end betwixt the firſt and ſecond finger, and the other betwixt the two laſt, both the ends a fingers length without the back of the hand, ſo that the reſt thereof may hang betwixt the hand and the Butt of the Musket; and becauſe in exerciſing the Match is to be laid down no more, it muſt never be kindled without expreſs Order,

VII.

With a ſhoulder'd Musket the left Elbow ought to be turned a little outwards from the Body, but without conſtraint of the Arm, and the right Arm hanging looſe downwards along the Body with the Palm of the hand turned to the Thigh.

The Manual of the Muskets.

1.
Joyn your right hand to your Muskets.

2.
Poiſe your Muskets.

3.
Joyn your left hand to your Muskets.

4.
Take your Matches.

5.
Blow your Matches.

6.
Cock your Matches.

7.
Try your Matches.

8.
Guard your Pans.

9.
Blow your Matches.

10.
Open your Pans in preſenting.

11.
Give Fire.

12.
Recover your Arms.

13.
Return your Matches.

14.
Blow your Pans.

15.
Handle your Primers.

16.
Prime.

17.
Shut your Pans.

18
Blow off your looſe Corns.

19.
Caſt about to charge.

20.
Handle your Chargers.

21.
Open them with your Teeth.

22.
Charge with Powder.

23.
Charge with Bullet.

24.
Wadd from your Hats.

25.
Draw forth your Scowrers.

26.
Hold them up.

27.
Shorten them to your Breaſts.

28.
Put them in the Barrels.

29.
Ram down your Shot.

30
Withdraw your Scowrers.

31. Hold

31. Hold them up.
32. Shorten them to your Breasts.
33. Put them up in their places.
34. Joyn your right hand to your Muskets.
35. Poise your Muskets.
36. Shoulder your Muskets.
37. Rest your Muskets.
38. Order your Muskets.
39. Lay down your Muskets.
40. Take up your Muskets.
41. Rest your Muskets.
42. Club your Muskets.
43. Rest your Muskets.
44. Shoulder your Muskets.

Take heed to make ready by three Words of Command.

1. Make ready.
2. Present.
3. Give Fire.

Here follows the Manual of a Grenadier, beginning from a shoulder'd Fire-lock.

1. JOyn your right hand to your Fire-locks.
2. Poise your Fire-locks.
3. Joyn your left hand to your Fire-locks.
4. Bend your Fire-locks.
5. Present.
6. Give Fire.
7. Recover your Arms.
8. Handle your Slings.
9. Sling your Fire-locks upon your Shoulders.
10. Take your Matches.
11. Take your Grenades.
12. Open the Grenade Fuse.
13. Guard the Grenade Fuse with your Thumbs.
14. Blow your Matches.
15. Fire and deliver your Grenades.
16. Return your Matches.
17. Handle your Slings.
18. Poyse your Fire-locks
19. Cast about your Fire-locks to left side.
20. Draw your Daggers.
21. Screw your Daggers in the Muzzle of your Fire-locks.
22. Rest your Daggers.
23. Charge your Daggers the butt to the right knee.
24. Stand up again, and rest your Daggers.
25. Cast about your Daggers to the left side.
26. Withdraw your Daggers.
27. Put up your Daggers.
28. Half-bend your Fire-locks.
29. Blow your Pans.
30. Handle your Primers.
31. Prime.
32. Shut your Pans.
33. Cast about to charge.
34. Handle your Cartridges.
35. Open your Cartridges.
36. Charge your Cartridges.
37. Draw forth your Scowrers.
38. Hold them up.
39. Shorten them to your Breasts.
40. Put them in the Barrels
41. Ram down your Shot.

42. With-

42. Withdraw your Scowrers.
43. Hold them up.
44. Shorten them to your Breasts.
45. Put them up in their places.
46. Joyn your right hand to your Fire-locks.
47. Poise your Fire-locks.
48. Shoulder your Fire-locks.
49. Rest your Fire locks.
50. Order your Fire-locks.
51. Lay down your Fire-locks.
52. Take up your Fire-locks.
53. Rest your Fire-locks.
54. Club your Fire-locks.
55. Rest your Fire-locks.
56. Shoulder your Fire-locks.

Take heed you be ready to give fire by three Words of Command.

57

1. Make ready.
2. Present.
3. Give Fire.

Take heed ye be ready to fire your Grenades by three Words of Command.

58

1. Make ready.
2. Blow your Match.
3. Fire, and deliver your Grenades.

Take heed ye be ready to use your Daggers by three Words of Command.

59

1. Make ready.
2. Charge your Daggers, the Butt againſt the right Knee.
3. Rest your Daggers.

Take heed to make your Fire-locks ready again.

60

Make ready your Fire-locks.

Here follows the Manual of the Pike, beginning from the Advance.

THE Poſture of a Pike-man with his Pike advanced, muſt be the ſame as the Musketiers with a ſhoulder'd Musket, *viz.* that he ſtand ſtraight upon his Limbs, holding up his Head, looking briskly, wirh his Eye always turned towards the Commanding Officer, and making no other motions than the Commands do bear, that he keep his Feet a ſmall pace diſtant from each other, his Heels in a ſtraight Line, his Toes turn'd outwardly, and holding the Butt-end of the Pike in his right hand, ſtretched downwards along his Body to the full length, ſo that the back of his hand be turn'd ſo much outwardly, as his Arm in ſuch poſture can ſuffer without conſtraint, and the Pike be kept cloſe as well to his ſhoulder as the outſide of his Thigh, that it may ſtand ſtraight upwards, without inclining to either hand, which Poſture muſt be always obſerved with an advanced Pike.

1. Charge to the Front.
2. As you were.
3. Charge to the right.
4. To the left, as you were.
5. Charge to the left.
6. To the right, as you were.
7. To the right about charge.
8. To the left, as you were.
9. To the left about charge.
10. To the right, as you were.
11. Shoulder your Pikes.
12. Charge to the Front.
13. Shoulder as you were.
14. Charge to the right.
15. To the left, as you were.
16. Charge to the left.
17. To the right, as you were
18. To the right about charge.
19. To the left, as you were.
20. To the left about charge.
21. To the right, as you were.
22. Port your Pikes.
23. Charge to the Front.
24. Trail your Pikes the Spear behind.
25. Charge, as you were.
26. Puſh your Pikes.
27. Trail your Pikes the Spear before.
28. Preſent your Spears.
29. Charge to the Front.
30. Advance your Pikes.
31. Order your Pikes.
32. Lay down your Pikes.
33. Take up your Pikes.
34. Plant your Pikes.
35. Order your Pikes.
36. Advance your Pikes.

Here

Here follow the Evolutions.

General Words of Command.

1. Take heed.

AT the pronouncing of this Word, there muſt be great Silence obſerved throughout the whole Battalion, the Souldiers doing no motions neither with their Heads, Bodies, Hands or Feet; but ſuch as ſhall be ordered, and looking ſtedfaſtly to the commanding Officer, as hath been ſaid above concerning the Manual.

2. Carry well your Arms.

3. Dreſs your Ranks and your Files.

Evolutions with Muskets and Pikes together.

1. Preſent your Arms.
2.
   1. To the right.
   2. To the right.
   3. To the right.
   4. To the right.
3. To the right about.
4. To the left, as you were.
5.
   1. To the left.
   2. To the left.
   3. To the left.
   4. To the left.
6. To the left about.
7. To the right, as you were.
8. Poyſe your Muskets, and advance your Pikes.
9. Shoulder your Muskets.

Take heed to double your Ranks to the Front.

10. To the right, double our Ranks to the Front.
11. March.

HEre it muſt be obſerved, as alſo by all other Marches, that all the Souldiers of the ſame Rank make the firſt ſtep with the left foot, lifting all at the ſame time, to the end that marching ſoftly, looking continually to the ſides, more eſpecially to the right, they may keep the Rank ſtraight, and come upon their places all together, ſtepping, ſo that with four paces they may enter the Rank that is before them, having ſpecial care to carry their Arms well, hold up their

Head, keep their Bodies in a ſtraight and unconſtrained poſture, and look briskly.

12. To the left, as you were.
13. March.
14. Halt.
15. To the left, double your Ranks to the Front.
16. March.
17. To the right, as you were.
18. March.
19. Halt.

Take heed to double your Ranks to the Rear.

20. To the right about, double your Ranks to the Rear.
21. March.
22. Halt.
23. As you were.
24. March.
25. To the left about, double your Ranks to the Rear.
26. March.
27. Halt.
28. As you were.
29. March.

Take heed by half Files to double your Ranks to the Front.

30. To the right, by half Files double your Ranks to the Front.
31. March.
32. To the left, as you were.
33. March.
34. Halt.

35. To the left by half Files, double your Ranks to the Front.
36. March.
37. To the right, as you were.
38. March.
39. Halt.

Take heed by half Files to double your Ranks to the Rear.

40. To the right about by half Files double your Ranks to the Rear.
41. March.
42. Halt.
43. As you were.
44. March.
45. To the left about by half Files double your Ranks to the Rear.
46. March.
47. Halt.
48. As you were.
49. Halt.

Take heed to double your Files.

50. To the right double your Files.
51. March.
52. Halt.
53. To the left, as you were.
54. March.
55. To the left, double your Files.
56. March.
57. Halt.
58. To the right. as you were.
59. March.

Take

Take heed to double your Files by half Ranks.

60. By half Ranks to the right, double your Files.
61. March.
62. Halt.
63. To the left as you were.
64. March.
65. Halt.
66. By half Ranks to the left double your Files.
67. March.
68. Halt.
69. To the right, as you were.
70. March.
71. Halt.

Every Diviſion muſt double its Files in it ſelf, and the odd File muſt ſtand on its ground.

Take heed to contre-march by Files.

72. By Files to the right about, contre-march.
73. March.
74. By Files to the left about, contre-march.
75. March.

Take heed to contre-march by Ranks.

76. By Ranks to the right, contre-march.
77. March.
78. Halt.
79. By Ranks to the left, contre-march.
80. March.
81. Halt.

Take heed to cloſe your Files.

82. From the right and left, cloſe your Files to the Center.
83. March.
84. Halt.

Take heed to cloſe your Ranks.

85. Cloſe your Ranks to the Front.
86. March.

Take heed to wheel.

87. Wheel to the right.
88. March.
89. Halt.
90. Wheel to the right.
91. March.
92. Halt.
93. To the right about, wheel.
94. March.
95. Halt.
96. Wheel to the left.
97. March.
98. Halt.
99. Wheel to the left.
100. March.
101. Halt.
102. To the left about, wheel.
103. March.
104. Halt.

Take

Take heed to put your Ranks and Files at their former distance.

105. Files to the right and left, take your former distances.
106. March.
107. Halt.

Take heed to put your Ranks at the former distance.

108. Ranks, as you were.
109. March.
110. Halt.

Take heed to lay down your Arms.

111. Reft your Muskets.
112. Order your Arms.
113. Lay down your Arms.

Take heed to quit your Arms.

114. For Straw.
115. March.
116. To your Arms.
117. Put up your Swords.
118. Take up your Arms.
119. Reft your Muskets.
120. Poyſe your Muskets, and advance your Pikes.
121. Shoulder your Muskets.

FINIS.